

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.  
JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
PROPRIETOR.

All business or news letter and telegraphic  
despatches must be addressed NEW YORK  
HERALD.

Volume XXXVI. No. 285

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street—ENGLISH  
OPERA—MARTHA.

WOODS MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 20th st.—Perform-  
ances afternoon and evening—THE CHILD STALKER.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, 2d st., between 5th and 6th ays.—  
KING HENRY VIII.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—MONEY AND MISERY—  
THE IRISH OUTLAW.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and  
Houston streets—THE STREETS OF NEW YORK.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 8th av. and 23d st.—  
EILEEN O'NEILL.

LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, No. 720 Broadway.—FRENCH  
OPERA—LA PERICHOLE.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—  
THE NEW DRAMA OF DIVORCE.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth st. and Broad-  
way.—NEGRO ACTS—BURLESQUE, BALLET, &c.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE BALLET PAN-  
TOMIME OF HUMPTY DUMPTY.

STADT THEATRE, Nos. 45 and 47 Bowery.—OPERA  
SEASON—TROVATORE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—  
MARKS AND FACES.

MRS. F. R. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—  
GUY MANNING.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 555 Broadway.—  
THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.

BRANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 231 st., between 6th  
and 7th ays.—BRANT'S MINSTRELS.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—  
NEGRO ECCECITITIES, BURLESQUES, &c.

STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street.—BALLAD CON-  
CERTS.

PARIS PATHEON CIRCUS, Fourteenth street, between  
2d and 3d avenues.—EQUESTRIANISM, &c.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE EXHIBITION, Third avenue  
and Sixty-third street.—Open day and evening.

## TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, October 12, 1871.

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on the Erie, with relief stores for the sufferers  
at Chicago.

HANCOCK'S CASE ALL IN THE FIRE.—The  
result in Pennsylvania has probably knocked  
into a cocked hat Hancock's prospects for the  
democratic nomination for the Presidency.  
His friends will not insist upon his running  
when his own State is likely to "go back" on  
him.

LEASED FOR ANOTHER TERM.—The seats of  
Simon Cameron and John Sherman in the  
United States Senate.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY presented a quiet  
aspect as contrasted with the wild  
movement of Tuesday. The assistance ten-  
dered by Mr. Boutwell in the shape of cur-  
rency disbursements had a calming influence  
and helped the stock market to get into a  
steadier state. The list of failures has been  
increased by three additional names, making  
six in all—a rather light harvest of bank-  
ruptcies, considering the field that was sown  
for them by the Chicago calamity.

THE ELECTION RIOT IN PHILADELPHIA.—  
The riot and bloodshed in Philadelphia on  
election day are much to be regretted. It was  
hoped that the passions of the politicians in  
the misnamed "City of Brotherly Love" had  
subsided, and that the turbulent and bad  
spirit of the days of church burnings had been  
extinguished. It is unfortunate, also, that the  
encounter was mainly waged between white  
democrats, some of them policemen, and radical  
blacks. It is about time the democrats  
ceased to persecute the poor darky and  
learned to accept the present political situa-  
tion.

A TOUCH OF THE COMMUNE IN CHICAGO.—  
While Chicago was burning a number of  
wretches were detected in feeding the flames,  
with the view of adding to the excitement  
that they might the better secure plunder.  
Being caught in the act little mercy was shown  
them, and convenient lamp-posts served as  
gallows trees from which to turn them adrift  
into eternity. What must be thought of such  
vermin in human shape, who in hours like  
those when a whole city was being consumed  
by fire and its people had fled from their  
homes in fear and trembling, could add to the  
calamities by feeding the flames and plunder-  
ing amid the excitement they helped to  
increase? This is the most dismal episode in  
the destruction of Chicago. We hope, for  
the sake of our common humanity, that it is  
not true. Should it prove to be as at first  
reported, the miserable wretches deserved the  
fate they met, and God alone must judge them  
or acts so base, cowardly and despicable.

THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN IN NEW YORK.—  
OPENING CAMPAIGN SPEECH OF SENATOR  
CONKLING.—We publish this morning a pretty  
full report of the opening campaign speech at  
Albany of Senator Conkling, last night, upon  
the issues, national and State, upon which the  
people of New York will be called to vote in our  
November election. To our political readers  
of both parties it will prove interesting as  
indicating the general line of action upon  
which the republicans intend to conduct this  
campaign, and especially those leading republic-  
ans who look rather to General Grant than  
to Mr. Fenton or Mr. Greeley as their national  
standard bearer in 1872.

The Pennsylvania and Ohio Elections—The  
Course Cleared for General Grant—Tam-  
many the Dead Weight to the Demo-  
cratic Party.

The Pennsylvania and Ohio State elections  
have been carried by the republicans by  
increased majorities. A glance at the returns  
which we publish this morning will satisfy the  
intelligent reader as to the general results in  
Pennsylvania and Ohio, and that there are  
two points in the explanation of these results  
upon which there can be no mistake. The first  
is that upon the platform of their national  
administration, and under the broad ensign of  
General Grant as their Presidential candidate  
against all comers, the republicans are waxing  
stronger and stronger; and the second point  
is that the democratic party, East and West,  
is becoming weaker and weaker under the  
dead weight of the astounding abominations of  
Tammany Hall.

This is the true explanation of these Octo-  
ber elections, and these are the causes which  
have operated and are operating over the  
length and breadth of the land to harmonize  
and strengthen the republicans and to demor-  
talize and weaken the democracy. Other  
questions, local and personal, have here and  
there had some effect; but the universal and  
overwhelming drawback to the democ-  
rats has been the odious finan-  
ciating of Tammany, as the central  
embodiment in "the Columbian Order" of  
the democratic party, democratic principles  
and democratic aspirations. Hence we find  
the late republican minority of five thousand  
in Philadelphia changed to a majority of eight  
thousand, and a late majority of one thousand  
in Cincinnati enlarged to two thousand, in  
spite of disturbing local side issues and  
mongrel third parties. An intelligent ob-  
server in Wall street remarked in our hearing  
on Tuesday last that "if these elections in  
Pennsylvania and Ohio go for the democrats  
upon the heels of these Tammany disclosures  
and this Chicago fire we shall have a finan-  
cial panic and revolution, because the confi-  
dence of banks, capitalists and all dealers in  
money in the public faith and credit will be  
sapped, and repudiation will stare them in  
the face, as the inevitable consequence of  
the popular endorsement of the gigantic cor-  
ruptions of the Tammany Ring." This is  
the idea which governs the popular verdict in  
these October elections. While the honest  
voter has been attracted to the republican  
ticket by the acceptable record of the present  
administration of our national government  
he has been repelled from the support of the  
democratic party, in many cases, by the  
scandalous record of the Tammany adminis-  
tration of our municipal affairs. What a  
change has come over Tammany and the  
democratic party since the "Ides of March!"

The March election in New Hampshire had  
inspired the party North, South, East and  
West with the delightful but delusive idea  
that this "Granite State" democratic victory,  
this radical flash in the pan, was the beginning  
of a political revolution, destined to carry every-  
thing before it right on to the close of the  
Presidential contest of 1872; but, unfortun-  
ately, Jeff Davis, "down in Alabama," join-  
ing in these democratic rejoicings, interpreted  
the results in New Hampshire as opening the  
way to the final triumph of the "lost cause,"  
with the overthrow of the whole Congressional  
system of Southern reconstruction. This, to  
the old Union party of the war, was like the  
roll of the drum, calling "the boys in blue"  
again to the front, and so, in the April Con-  
necticut election, the tables were turned, and  
so emphatically that the Northern democratic  
leaders were convinced that it was worse than  
useless to fight or question any longer the  
issues of the war settled in the new amend-  
ments to the constitution. The "new depart-  
ure," then initiated by Mr. Vallandigham in  
Ohio, was rapidly adopted by the democratic  
conventions of the North, from State to State;  
but it came too late to be of any service to the  
party for 1871 or 1872.

The July riot in our streets, in conse-  
quence of the Orange procession in honor of  
"the Boyne Water," and the question of equal  
rights raised by our local authorities in refer-  
ence to that procession, created throughout  
the country a strong excitement against the  
daring assumptions of Tammany Hall, which  
was by the republicans promptly used to the  
prejudice of the democratic party. At the  
same time this terrible war upon the official  
corruptions and spoiliations of the Tammany  
"Ring" was opened, and the effect upon the  
public mind of the country was made mani-  
fest—first, in the August elections in North  
Carolina and Kentucky to some extent, but  
with unmistakable emphasis in the September  
elections in Maine and California. These  
elections distinctly made the facts known to  
the democratic party of the Union that, while  
its "new departure" had given it no strength,  
the bad name of Tammany had weakened and  
demoralized the rank and file East and  
West. So it was that, after the popular ver-  
dict of September from Maine and California  
in favor of the republican party as repre-  
sented in the national administration of General  
Grant, and against the democratic party as  
represented in the local administration of  
Tammany, it came to be the general belief  
that the scandalous reputation of Tammany  
would be too much for the democracy of  
Pennsylvania and Ohio in October.

It is probable, however, had Senator Fen-  
ton, Mr. Greeley and company been strong  
enough at Syracuse to make a hopeful split of  
the republican party in New York against  
General Grant, that the whole political situa-  
tion would have been instantly changed. Or  
had General Butler proved equal to the ex-  
pectations of his outside friends, the labor re-  
formers, the temperance people and the  
women's rights women, in splitting up the re-  
publican party of Massachusetts, a hopeful  
diversion would have been made for the de-  
mocracy even in Pennsylvania, if not in Ohio;  
but Messrs. Fenton and Greeley were com-  
pletely "fazed out" at Syracuse, and General  
Butler's cheerful surrender at Worcester  
knocked all democratic calculations in the  
head in that quarter. Consequently, since  
September last the prospects of the democracy  
in Pennsylvania and Ohio, to say nothing of  
Iowa, rather darkened than brightened from  
day to day down to the Rochester Convention.  
The proceedings of that body, as the expres-  
sion of the party of the State of New York, in  
the exclusion of Tammany from the Conven-  
tion, in the overthrow of Tammany as a  
political power and in the advocacy of specific

measures of municipal reform, were well cal-  
culated to strengthen the party inside and out-  
side of New York, but they came too late to  
make any material impression upon these  
October elections, and, we conjecture, too late  
even for New York in November.

In 1868 the Tammany managers deliberately  
threw away the game of the Presidential elec-  
tion in order to make sure of New York City  
and State, and to lay therein a solid political  
and financial foundation for the Presidency in  
1872. Six months ago, to all outward appear-  
ances, in the absolute possession of city and  
State, and city cash and city credit, with  
boundless resources at their command, the  
Tammany managers held in their hands the  
democratic trump cards for the Presidential  
succession. Now, Tammany, as a political  
oligarchy, is demolished. Her prestige is  
gone, and her power to buy up Legislatures  
and party conventions is taken away. She is  
in disgrace, and cut off from her supplies;  
she is only in a condition to permit our  
November election in the State and the  
city to go by default. Charged with elec-  
tion repeaters and with false count-  
ing of the ballots to any extent desired,  
the "Ring" have now no incentive, if they still  
had the power, to indulge in these amuse-  
ments. The neglect of the "Ring" masters to  
get up a grand Tammany ratification of the  
Rochester Convention tells the story. Demor-  
talized, disorganized, cut up into cliques  
and factions and shorn of their Tammany sup-  
plies, the democrats of the city in this coming  
election will fall, on their State ticket, far be-  
hind their late crushing majorities, and the  
republicans, from all the indications of the  
day, including these October elections, will  
recover this fall the Empire State, State ticket  
and Legislature.

The argument and the results involved in  
these Pennsylvania and Ohio elections, in our  
judgment, settle this question. It will be  
remembered that in 1868, after these October  
State elections, the democrats gave up the  
Presidential battle of November as lost, and  
the prospect is now as decisively against  
them for 1872. It is remarkable in this con-  
nection that the very power, the central power  
of Tammany, upon which they have mainly  
relied for this coming Presidential contest, has  
proved the cause of their apparently hopeless  
collapse from Maine to California. But the  
case is very simple. The democratic party of  
the Union, sharing in the honors and sobriety  
of Tammany, must share in her disgrace until  
some atonement is made for her manifold sins  
and transgressions. Weighed in the balance  
and found wanting, the kingdom from Tam-  
many has been taken away, and turned over  
to the Medes and Persians. In the midst of  
the impious feast of Belshazzar, with his lord-  
and concubines, there came upon his startled  
eyes that terrible handwriting on the wall. In  
short, to all appearances, even New York is  
lost to the democratic party through the  
stupid excesses of Tammany, and the course is  
cleared and the way made easy for an exten-  
sion of four years to General Grant's careful  
and honest administration.

The Municipal War—No Change in the  
Situation.

Nothing new was developed yesterday in  
the matter of the municipal troubles. The exami-  
nation into the Ingersoll case presented no in-  
teresting feature, the time of the Court having  
been taken up by the argument of immaterial  
issues. It is very evident now that to the next  
Legislature must be left the solution of our  
city difficulty problem, and hence the atten-  
tion of the people may be more profitably  
directed to the legislative nominations and  
elections than to the fruitless criminalizations  
and recriminations of the contending parties. Good  
men must be sent to Albany next winter; not  
the disappointed political sharpers who have  
their own axes to grind, but honest, independ-  
ent citizens, who will give the people an  
efficient charter to live under and an oppor-  
tunity to choose their municipal officers in the  
early spring.

In the meantime the city government must  
go on. The public works must not be aban-  
doned, and the people must not be made to  
suffer because there has been extravagance or  
dishonesty in the past administration of the  
city's affairs. The taxes are now coming in,  
and the credit of the Corporation is too good  
to render the raising of necessary funds a  
difficult task. The citizens do not desire to  
see the parks neglected, the improvements on  
the boulevards and avenues discontinued, or  
the Fire Department, the Health Department,  
the Croton Aqueduct Bureau, or any other  
important branch of the government suffer  
for want of funds. Both the Committee of  
Seventy and Deputy Comptroller Green should  
do their best to disembarass the government  
as much as possible at this crisis, while  
guarding against any misappropriation or  
waste of the people's money. Let them do  
this and trust to the Legislature to give us the  
reform we so much need.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.—The New York  
Fire Department sent three steam fire engines  
to Chicago yesterday, at the solicitation of  
the Mayor of that unfortunate city. In the scarcity  
of the water supply they are needed in case of  
the rekindling of the old fire or the breaking  
out of a new, as in such an event it would be  
necessary to obtain water from the river and  
lake. Apropos of the Fire Department, we  
learn from good authority that the Commis-  
sioners are down to hard pan both in the mat-  
ter of retrenchment and in the supply of funds.  
In case they are kept longer out of money the  
efficiency of the brigade must be seriously im-  
paired. The Chicago calamity should warn  
us against embarrassing in any manner the  
management of our Fire Department, and as  
the Commissioners are free from the slightest  
suspicion of misconduct; as their duties are  
admitted to have been honestly, efficiently and  
intelligently performed; as they have brought  
the brigade up to a point of discipline and  
effectiveness never before attained, and as  
they enjoy the confidence of the people, their  
requests for funds should be promptly and  
cheerfully met.

A GOOD IDEA.—Boston appropriated twenty  
thousand dollars for a grand banquet at which  
to entertain the President on his contemplated  
visit to the city. It is now proposed to reduce  
the expenses of the proposed entertainment  
and add the balance to the subscriptions now  
being raised in aid of the Chicago sufferers.  
This is a good and philanthropic idea.

Relief for Chicago—A Noble Outburst of  
Charity.

We believe we speak the sentiments of the  
great mass of our fellow citizens when we say  
that the Chicago fire, in spite of all the loss  
and misery it has created, partakes largely of  
the character of a blessing. To all outward  
seeming nations and men were growing in  
selfishness. The Gospel doctrine of charity  
seemed to be forgotten. Nations and men  
lived to themselves and for themselves. To  
many thinking men it has for years seemed as  
if, in spite of our Christianity, the external  
prosperity of which was undeniable, we were  
lapsing back into a species of heathen Pagan-  
ism. Might seemed to be growing into right.  
No man seemed willing to admit that he was  
his brother's keeper in any, even the most  
modified, sense. Many indications encouraged  
the belief that Christianity, like the religions  
which had gone before it, had become a system  
of dead dogmas, and that, with a wealth which  
the world had never known before, we were  
rapidly coming under the reign of universal  
selfishness. We dare not say that this view  
of modern society was not justified by facts.  
Suddenly, and as if by a lightning  
stroke, it has been shown that this view  
of modern society is false, and that in  
spite of all outward seeming the so-called  
Christian nations are Christian at the core.  
This Chicago disaster, revealing, as it has re-  
vealed, the power of Christian doctrine and  
the goodness of human hearts, confirms and  
establishes the ancient lesson that the darkest  
cloud has its silver lining and that the longest  
night is followed by the dawn. We can for a  
moment forget the awful disaster in our joy  
because of the sympathy and practical charity  
which it has called forth.

It is true that no such calamity has occur-  
ed in modern times, and that the sympathy of  
the world has not, in many generations, been  
similarly tested. We are not unwilling to  
make this admission, but we do not feel that  
in making it we are at all detracting from  
the strength of our argument. The great fact re-  
mains that the occasion calling for it, the  
world's sympathy has rushed out as it never  
gushed out before. We cannot write in too  
flattering terms of the doings of the govern-  
ment. From the first the President and all  
his advisers acted with a promptitude and a  
fulness of liberality which left little to be de-  
sired. Our great cities, one and all, have  
vied with each other in affording relief for the  
sufferers. There is no room for special praise  
where all have done so well. Our own cities  
have been equalled by the large towns of the  
New Dominion. Ottawa, Toronto, Quebec and  
Montreal have shown that brotherly love and  
the liberal outflow of charity are perfectly  
compatible with what are called national differ-  
ences. The citizens of the New Dominion feel  
and confess that the Chicago sufferers are not  
the less brothers and sisters that they live  
across the lines. In this case three thousand  
miles of ocean have not hindered London and  
Liverpool and Manchester and Glasgow and  
all the large cities of the Continent of Europe  
from vying with us in their noble efforts and  
by their munificent contributions to succor the  
distressed in the young, great, but unfortunate  
city of the Western world. We have spoken  
of the noble doings of the great cities of differ-  
ent nations. We do not forget the noble  
efforts of our corporations, of our church or-  
ganizations, of our trades' societies, of our  
public establishments and of our private  
citizens. It gratifies us much to know that  
our suggestions have been so generally  
adopted and so promptly and vigorously acted  
upon. The various organizations of this city  
have done so well, and the liberality of our  
private citizens has been in so many cases so  
magnificently illustrated, that to mention  
names would be invidious. It is fair, we  
think, to say that Christian charity, or human-  
ity, or practical sympathy, or whatever the  
reader chooses to call it, was never in the  
whole history of the world so grandly ex-  
hibited. It is also fair, we think, to say that  
this exhibition of goodness justifies us in  
thinking more kindly and speaking more  
hopefully of our species. We rejoice greatly  
that Chicago will not be  
allowed to want for any good thing; but we  
rejoice still more that Christian men and  
women of all persuasions and shades of belief  
have come so nobly forward to the assistance  
of their fellows. It may be a bad world, but  
there are many who will henceforth think that  
it is not so bad as it seems.

In considering this subject it is impossible  
to overlook the importance of our new agents  
of civilization. We have for years known the  
value of the railroad and the telegraph and  
the deep sea cables. Their value and impor-  
tance were never so revealed as they have  
been in connection with this Chicago disaster.  
We felt their value during our great civil war,  
and it is not unfair for us to admit that but  
for our superior command of the railroad and  
the telegraph it might have been more difficult  
for us to put down the insurgent South and  
restore the loved Union in all its integrity.  
We knew their value during the Abyssinian  
war, when the British empire put forth its  
strength to protect the agents of Christianity  
and civilization from the attacks of an almost  
unapproachable barbarian. We knew their  
value during the late Franco-German war;  
and France in her sorrow had no occasion but  
to be grateful for that enterprise which had  
bridged the ocean and brought American  
charity to her door. But these agents  
of which we have spoken were never  
so much or so truly the agents of  
Christianity and of civilization as they have  
been in the case of unfortunate and suffering  
Chicago. Her misfortune with the speed of  
lightning was flashed not only to every city on  
this Continent, but to every city in Europe.  
Relief with the speed of lightning came from  
every centre where the sad intelligence had been  
received. But for these agents Chicago might  
have suffered as Jerusalem suffered when fired  
by the soldiers of Titus; as Rome often suf-  
fered when fired by the rude barba-  
rians of the North; as London suffered on  
the occasion of her great historic conflagration.  
If the fate of Chicago and her people has been  
less disastrous we must attribute it not to  
kind hearts alone, but to the applications and  
achievements of science. It is sometimes  
said—and there are those who believe it—that  
in the womb of nature is hidden the cure for  
all human sorrow and suffering; in other  
words, that nature has concealed somewhere  
the antidote to the curse. It does seem, when  
we compare the world of to-day with the world

of three or four thousand years ago, as if science  
were gradually working her way into this mys-  
terious chamber, and as if the blessed antidote  
were yet to be found. While we are rapidly  
multiplying the conveniences we are as rapidly  
diminishing the sorrows of life. Why should  
we not hope for and believe in ultimate vic-  
tory? The new heavens and the new earth  
may not be so far from us, after all.

Our Special Report from Rome—A Crisis  
at Hand in the Holy City.

The special telegram from Rome which ap-  
pears in our columns to-day supplies a news  
report which is of very considerable interest.  
The public situation which has existed in  
such a doubtful and hesitating manner in the  
Holy City since the entry of the Italian army  
is about to be brought to a crisis. King Victor  
Emmanuel has again asserted his monarchical  
authority within the municipal territory. The  
act has been accomplished in a manner which  
renders its perpetration extremely novel in  
the history of the royalties. His Majesty's  
officers have notified their intention of taking  
possession of the buildings and grounds be-  
longing to the Convent St. André, near the  
Quirinal. The tenements are required for the  
purpose of being altered into stables for the  
royal stud, the horses of which are, as is  
known to Continental travellers, very nume-  
rous and the finest in Italy. The Convent  
St. André is situated in the neighborhood of  
the American College in Rome—one of the  
noblest ecclesiastical seminaries at the Chris-  
tian centre—and the King can hardly disturb  
the inmates of the one without annoyance to  
the students in the other. The knowledge of  
this fact caused the royal officers to hesitate  
in carrying out the will of the Ministers. The  
Pope recommended the inmates of the St.  
André and of all the other city convents to  
stand firm and not to yield their right of  
property except in the presence of  
force. This solemn action prolonged  
the hesitation. This offended the revo-  
lutionary party of the "reds." Its leaders  
inquired, "Why does the King stand at the  
door of the St. André Convent after his gar-  
son have battered the walls of Rome?" A  
very pertinent remark, and appropriate in its  
place. The Italian monarchy is in a difficult  
position in Rome. Should the King attempt  
to eclipse Caligula in his care for his horses  
he has the Supreme Pontiff, with many for-  
eign Catholic nationalities, in opposition in  
his path. Should he attempt to recede from  
his stable and pitchfork coup he has the revo-  
lution behind him. How will he act? It is  
extremely difficult to say. He will have to  
determine very soon, for a second tele-  
gram from Rome announces the arrival of  
Menotti Garibaldi in the city. Menotti is  
very well posted with regard to the tendency  
of public affairs in Europe, and should events  
come to a crisis in Rome he may yet ride the  
winning horse on the Italian Campaign. The  
animal may even be taken from the King's  
collection of "flyers," as Menotti is not very  
particular with regard to his own way of  
getting ahead so that he is a "little ahead"  
at the conclusion.

The Consequences of the Chicago Disaster  
in a Financial Point of View.

In time of excitement over any great dis-  
astrous event there is always a tendency to  
exaggeration as to the loss or consequences.  
It is so, doubtless, now in the case of the Chi-  
cago fire, and we hope the generally estimated  
loss may be greatly exaggerated. Dreadful  
enough are the losses by this calamity without  
over-estimating them. Though we have no  
reliable data to base a calculation upon, we  
may by comparison approximate the truth.  
Nor do we know yet—indeed, we ever  
shall know—how many precious lives were  
lost. The disaster has been so overwhelming  
and the destruction of property so great that  
the sacrifice of human life has not been  
thought of as much as it would have been  
under other circumstances. In fact, it must  
be said with regret that generally human life  
is regarded with more indifference than prop-  
erty. But our object just now is to look at  
the consequences of the fire in a financial  
point of view.

The loss of property has been variously  
estimated. Some have made it amount to  
three hundred millions of dollars. Almost all  
have regarded it as a hundred millions at  
least. We have not before us a reliable esti-  
mate of the taxable or assessed value of  
property in Chicago at the time of the fire,  
but it is said that the total valuation in 1870  
was about two hundred and seventy-five mil-  
lions. This, of course, included land as well  
as buildings and personal property. Admit-  
ting an increase of twenty-five millions since  
the valuation was made—and that would be  
very large—the total value would be three  
hundred millions. Brooklyn has a fourth  
larger population than Chicago, yet the tax-  
able value of property there amounted to less  
than two hundred and fifty millions. The  
assessed valuation of Chicago must have been  
much less. Allowing that the full marketable  
value is much greater than the assessed or  
taxable value, we still think that the estimate  
of three hundred millions is large enough for  
Chicago just before the fire, including land  
and personal property as well as buildings.  
The buildings might have been worth twice as  
much as the land. If we allow thirty millions  
for personal property and ninety millions for  
the land there would be left for buildings a  
hundred and eighty millions—that is, esti-  
mating the total valuation at three hundred  
millions.

The land, of course, is not destroyed. Sup-  
posing, then, that one-fourth of the whole  
property in buildings and personal effects has  
been destroyed, the total loss would amount  
to fifty-five millions. Should we include in  
this estimate of personal effects the merchan-  
dise in the stores that was consumed, and say  
the value of that was twenty millions, this  
would only raise the sum for all losses to sev-  
enty-five millions. We are disposed to believe  
as, indeed, we hope, that the loss will not ex-  
ceed this sum, and it may be much less. Still  
that is a vast amount. How much will fall  
upon the insurance companies cannot be as-  
certained at present. If their liabilities should  
amount to half—that is, to thirty-seven or  
thirty-eight millions—it must prove a crushing  
disaster to many of them. Many, we fear,  
will have to sink under the weight. Others  
with less risks may overcome the difficulty.  
Some banks and other institutions may become  
involved, and the stock market may be

agitated and depressed for a time, but the  
effect will only be temporary. Indeed, we  
think the disaster has been largely discounted  
already at the stock boards and in financial  
circles. The first excitement and appre-  
hension of the worst nature created a dis-  
turbance. Speculators and stock jobbers,  
who are always ready to take advantage of  
such a state of things, seized the opportunity  
to fan the flame of excitement for speculative  
purposes. In the course of a few weeks at  
farthest all will be quiet again, at least from  
this cause, and stocks and values will fall  
into their normal condition. We shall soon  
hear, probably, of the debris of the great fire  
being cleared away, and Chicago beginning to  
rise again in business and splendor. While,  
therefore, we should do all we can to relieve  
the Chicago sufferers, it should be understood  
that there is no good reason for a panic. The  
resources of the country and the industry and  
enterprise of the people of Chicago will prove  
superior to this calamity. The first shock  
being nearly over, let hope inspire us as to  
the future.

PRACTICAL RELIEF.—Nearly all the planing  
and saw mills, brick-making machines and  
other machinery used for building purposes,  
have been destroyed in Chicago. Practical  
relief toward rebuilding the Western metropo-  
lis might well be exercised in forwarding with  
despatch all such machinery as we have sug-  
gested. There is lumber and clay for brick-  
making in abundance all around the devastated  
region.

## WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11, 1871.  
Collector Murphy to Resign His Position.  
There is a report circulating in regard to the  
New York Custom House and the retirement of Mr.  
Murphy after the election in November is no longer  
a question of doubt. The President has all along  
evinced a determination not to force the collector's  
removal while a cloud of charges was overhanging  
him, but Mr. Murphy himself has relieved the admin-  
istration from this embarrassing situation. The har-  
mony of the republican party and a disposition not  
to weaken its prospects after the recent victories in  
Pennsylvania and Ohio and the possible victory in  
New York are declared to be the impelling motives  
in this new movement. The certainty of Mr. Mur-  
phy's resignation, after so many conflicting rumors  
and so many assertions to the contrary, will create  
considerable surprise; but all speculation ends with  
the announcement of the fact. This determination  
was only definitely arrived at to-day, President  
Grant occupying the attitude of a consenting party  
rather than of an impelling power.

Relief for the Chicago Sufferers.  
Several thousand dollars were raised to-day  
among the clerks and employees of the Treasury and  
other departments.

The Secretary of the Treasury this morning re-  
quested telegrams from London and Canada inquiring  
if clothing, blankets, &c., for the people of Chicago  
would be admitted free of duty. The Secretary  
immediately replied that such goods would be admitted  
free, and gave the necessary orders to Collectors.

Inspector of Post Office Buildings.  
Colonel A. H. Markland, Assistant Superintendent  
of the Railway Mail Service for the Fourth district,  
with his headquarters at Indianapolis, in addition  
to the usual and ordinary duties of his position,  
was to-day specially appointed by the Postmaster  
General Inspector at Large of Post Office Buildings.  
Colonel Markland will examine and report upon  
the eligibility and fitness of post office buildings  
throughout the country with reference to economy  
of rents and the better accommodation of the pub-  
lic, and will generally keep the department advised  
of all matters relating to the economy and good  
management of the postal service.

Presidential Appointments.  
The President to-day appointed Irving Todd Col-  
lector of Internal Revenue for the Second district of  
Minnesota, and Edward M. Searly Collector of Customs  
at Tappan, N. Y.

Personal.  
General R. F. Butler had an interview with the  
President to-day.

## SHOT THROUGH THE HEART.

A Young Man Commits Suicide in a Fit of  
Despondency.

On Tuesday afternoon, about half past three  
o'clock, the residents of West Fifth street, be-  
tween Broadway and Eighth avenue, were sudden-  
ly startled by the discharge of a pistol, and upon  
inquiring they learned that Adina G. Underhill, residing  
at No. 228 West Fifth street, was dead, and that she  
had committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart.  
The unfortunate man thus prematurely hurried  
into the presence of his Maker was but thirty-three  
years of age, the son of a well-known grocer doing  
business at Eighth avenue and Fifth street.  
During the war he served as a volunteer in the  
Union army, seeing considerable service in Vir-  
ginia, and at the time contracted a habit  
of indulging to excess in the use of intoxicating  
beverages, which ultimately led to his taking his  
life while in a fit of despondency.

In the morning his father left him at the house-